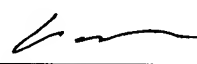


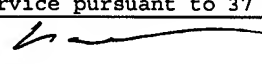
Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this request, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative of the Applicants at the number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard York

  
By: Arnold M. de Guzman  
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Dated: January 8, 2004

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